

Recycle, and help make Merced even greener

Most City residents have been good about correctly using their recycling containers. They put the green waste in the green container, recyclable material in the blue and trash in the gray can.

This helps us meet the state requirement to divert waste from landfills and saves us money because the “tipping fees” charges at the landfill are climbing.

But when garbage ends up in the wrong container, it costs more money. Too much of the wrong stuff will mean the whole load is rejected, and it ends up at the dump. Please follow the tips on this page to recycle properly.

Put the right stuff in the right container



GREEN — Garden waste, such as lawn clippings, leaves, weeds, tree and shrub trimmings, small branches. No palm fronds, oleander, lawn chairs, paper or boxes, lumber or plastic bags.

BLUE — Recyclable plastic, metal, glass and paper.

GRAY — Everything else that doesn't go into the other containers, such as wet garbage, grease, diapers, juice boxes and other foil-lined containers and potato chip bags.

METAL

All aluminum or tin cans
Clean aluminum foil
Aluminum pie pans
Beer and soda cans
Cat and dog food cans
Coffee cans
Fancy cookie cans
Food cans

No
Propane BBQ tanks
Foil pouches (Capri Sun)
Large auto parts (fenders)
Potato chip bags
Motors
Electronics



GLASS

Soda bottles
Wine bottles
Iced tea bottles
Fruit juice bottles
Peanut butter jars
Canned fruit jars
Catsup bottle

No
Window glass
Ceramics
Light bulbs
Drinking glasses
China or porcelain
Ceramic floor tile

PAPER

All clean paper, staples OK
Boxes: cereal, donut, cake, pizza
Cardboard tubes from toilet paper or paper towels
Catalogs and paperback books
Computer and office paper
Gift wrapping paper (non-metallic)
Junk mail
Magazines or newspapers
Telephone books
Paper grocery bags
Paper milk cartons

Shredded paper (put in plastic bag so it doesn't blow all over)

No
Bags inside cereal boxes
Cardboard roll with plastic wrap
Foil-lined bags or cartons
Juice boxes
Containers that mix cardboard and metal — biscuit containers
Dirty napkins

PLASTIC

Milk jugs
Shampoo bottles
Soda and water bottles
Cleaning product containers
Coffee drink bottles
Dish soap bottles
Catsup, mustard bottles
Bags marked #4
Plastic grocery bags (bundled together so they don't blow around)

No
Basketballs
Soccer balls
Clothes
Diapers
Garden hoses
Potato chip bags
Shoes
Hoses from cars
Styrofoam

Merced City Council

Mayor Ellie Wooten
 Mayor Pro Tem John Carlisle
 Council members:
 Joe Cortez
 Michele Gabriault-Acosta
 Noah Lor
 Jim Sanders
 Bill Spriggs

Contact the City Council by email at Citycouncil@cityofmerced.org, by calling 385-6834. You can write to Council members at the Civic Center address listed below.

Council meetings

The Council usually meets on the first and third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers in the Civic Center. The agenda is posted online at www.CityofMerced.org.

Contacting us

The Web site, www.CityofMerced.org, contains City Council information, the Municipal Code and General Plan and other information. To contact the Newsletter, e-mail newsletter@CityofMerced.org, call the Public Information Office at 385-6232 or write:

Merced Civic Center
 678 W. 18th St.
 Merced CA 95340

The Civic Center is open Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m., except holidays.

Call us

City Council	385-6834
City Manager	385-6834
City Attorney	385-6868
City Clerk	388-7100
Airport	385-6873
Code Enforcement.....	385-6855
Finance	385-4718
Inspection Services	385-6861
Personnel	388-7100
Planning Department.....	385-6858
Public Works (7:30-4:30) ...	385-6800
After hours	385-6905
Recreation/Parks	385-6855

IN AN EMERGENCY DIAL 911

Fire Department..... 385-6891
 Police Department..... 385-6912

City Manager search goes nationwide

The Merced City Council continues its search for a new City Manager. A consultant has been hired to conduct a nationwide search to replace City Manager Jim Marshall. Marshall retired in March after serving as the City Manager for 16 years. He is serving as interim City Manager until his replacement is hired.

Council members have met with the consultant to give their ideas on what they want in a City Manager. A public meeting was held in May to seek comments from residents on what qualities and skills they desire in the new City Manager.

The deadline for applications is mid-

June. The consultant, Bob Murray and Associates, will review the applications and forward the most qualified candidates to the Council. The Council is expected to conduct interviews and do additional background checks in July. The selection of the new City Manager could take place in late July or early August.

While the final selection of the City Manager will be made by the Council, the public can continue to provide the Council with ideas on the qualities they would like to see in the new City Manager. Send comments to the Council using the Civic Center address, or emailed to citycouncil@cityofmerced.org.

New rules for cell phone use in cars as of July 1

As of July 1, drivers must use a hands-free device for cellphones while driving in California.

Motorists can face a \$20 fine, plus court fees, for the first offense and a \$50 fine plus court fees for additional offenses.

The new law is intended to get drivers to focus on the road, not their phones. Drivers are allowed to use hands-free devices that don't interfere with driving.

The California Highway Patrol has launched an educational campaign this month to alert drivers to the new law.



A name change ahead

Two streets next to the site of the new Mercy Hospital will soon have new names. Mercy Avenue will become Dominican Drive and Cormorant Drive between G and Paulson will become Mercy Avenue.

Ask the City: A tale of two flags for the City

Ask the City is a feature of the City newsletter where we answer questions that we have received via email, by phone, or mail. Use the addresses in the box to the left to submit your question.

I'm a third grade teacher at Burbank School. My Social Studies class is studying local government. We read about the City of Oakland and its City flag. We were intrigued: Does Merced has a City flag? We would like to design one for the City if it does not already have one.

Saundra Herrera

Dear Ms. Herrera and students:

The City of Merced actually has two City flags. One was designed based on the City Seal that was adopted in 1889. It's unclear when the actual flag was created, but we know it was flying in 1967.



The other flag is the one that flies in front of the Merced Civic Center (City Hall). It was designed by Peter Vang in 2000. It is known as the Millennium Flag, because it was designed to celebrate the new Millennium. The flag has a red and yellow flower, which represents the "sunny side of Merced." The flower stem is blue to represent the Merced River and Bear Creek, two waterways that play a prominent role in our City's geography and our name.